

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Arthur J. Coury, Stephen D. Goodrich, Hildegard M. Kramer, Luis Z. Avila, John F. Traverse, and Peter K. Jarrett

Serial No.: 09/658,390 Art Unit: 1617

Filed: September 8, 2000 Examiner: M. Willis

For: **HYDROGELS FOR ORTHOPEDIC REPAIR**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed on June 18, 2002, please amend the application as follows. Submitted with this Amendment and Response is a Petition for Extension of Time, to extend the period for response one month, to and including October 18, 2002, a Power of Attorney and Revocation of Prior Powers, and a Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 3.73 (b). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge \$110, the fee for a one month extension of time, to

Deposit Account No. 50-1868.

It is believed that no additional fee is required with this submission. However, should an additional fee be required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to Deposit

Account No. 50-1868.

U.S.S.N. 09/658,390

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Please note that an Information Disclosure Statement was mailed to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on August 16, 2001. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner review and initial the Form-1449.

Amendment

Please enter the following amendment.

Please cancel claims 1-37.

38. (Amended) A composition for forming a water-absorbing, high modulus polymeric material comprising at least one macromer and at least one monomer, wherein the macromer comprises hydrophobic and hydrophilic regions and has a molecular weight of 500 to 200,000 Da,

wherein the monomer contains at least one vinyl group and has a molecular weight of less than 1,000 Da, and

wherein the monomer comprises at least 30% (wt/wt) of the composition, and
wherein the composition is capable of forming a gel upon polymerization.

Remarks

Claims 1-37 have been canceled. Claim 38 has been amended to define the composition as being capable of forming a gel upon polymerization. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification at least at page 3, lines 4-12.